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Volume 113
Number 1

JANUARY
2024
EDITION

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Focus of HBCU Tragedy Found

HBCU Administrator's Suicide Prompts Calls for President's Ouster

by Jade Lawson
and Kiara Alfonseca
Special Report

Calls for the resignation of Lincoln University of Missouri President John Moseley are growing following the death of Antoinette "Bonnie" Candia-Bailey, a university alum and vice president of student affairs who died by suicide on January 8, 2024.

Candia-Bailey began working at Lincoln University, a historically Black university in Jefferson City, Missouri, in May 2023. She received a termination letter on Jan. 3. The letter stated that she was terminated for cause,



A SAD REMINDER: Bullying behavior, whatever its pathology may be, often results in tragic, unwanted and unexpected outcomes that affect how we view our world.

including allegations of insubordination in allowing an ineligible student to work, allowing ineligible students to obtain a discounted housing rate and failing to adhere to confi-

dentiality requirements in a grievance matter filed by two of her subordinates.

In a letter dated January 8 addressed to Moseley and obtained by ABC

News, Candia-Bailey said she experienced months of harassment, bullying and differential treatment from her white colleagues

see HBCU TRAGEDY, Page A8

Wrongfully Imprisoned Man Free

After Nearly 30 Years, Lamar Johnson Fights for Justice Against SLMPD

by Lacey Turner
ARGUS Contributor

As he languished in a Missouri prison for nearly three decades, Lamar Johnson never stopped fighting to prove his innocence, even when it meant doing much of the legal work himself. This week a St. Louis judge overturned Johnson's murder conviction and ordered him freed.

In a sad tale of injustice, Lamar Johnson, who endured nearly three decades

of wrongful imprisonment for a 1994 murder, has taken legal action against the city of St. Louis and the police officers responsible for his flawed conviction.

Released last year after a judge vacated his conviction, Johnson's fight



for justice continues as he seeks unspecified damages for the violation of his constitutional rights.

Johnson's ordeal began in 1995 when he was convicted of murdering Marcus Boyd and sentenced to life in

prison. For years, he tirelessly submitted appeals and petitions, all to no avail. It wasn't until 2019 that the St. Louis Circuit Attorney Kimberly M. Gardner's office revealed misconduct by the lead detective, bringing national attention to the case.

The turning point came in 2022 when Gardner's office petitioned to vacate Johnson's sentence. A team of dedicated attorneys presented compelling

see FREE MAN, Page A4



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Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
April 3, 1968

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NEWSWATCH

Cori Bush, Rashida Tlaib Stand *in Support*

U.S. Congresswomen on South Africa's International Court of Justice Case Against Israel

ARGUS Staff Report

Congresswomen Bush, Tlaib on South Africa's International Court of Justice Case Against Israel

Congresswomen Cori Bush and Rashida Tlaib issue a joint statement in support of South Africa's case before the International Court of Justice alleging Israel's violation of the Genocide Convention. They call for an end to the violence and accountability for human rights abuses in the region.

Washington D.C. (Jan. 11, 2024) — Congresswoman Cori Bush (MO-01) and Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib (MI-12) released the following joint statement amid South Africa's case against Israel before the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

"We unequivocally join world leaders and international human rights organizations in support of South Africa's case before the International Court of Justice alleging Israel violated the Genocide Convention.



There must be an end to the violence—and there must be accountability for the blatant human rights abuses and mass atrocities occurring in the region. The historical significance of a post-apartheid state filing

this case must not be lost, and the moral weight of their prerogative cannot be dismissed.

The United States has a devastating role in the ongoing violence in Gaza, where already over 23,000 Palestinians have been killed, more than 59,000 injured, and millions have been displaced. We must refuse to be silent as the majority of the world is calling for an end to the violence and mass human suffering, and the need for accountability.

As one of the countries that has agreed to the Genocide Convention, the U.S. must stop trying to discredit and undermine this case and the international legal system it claims to support. Our commitment to protecting the human rights of all people must be unconditional.

The best time to make a conclusive determination on genocide is when there is still time to stop it, not after. We will continue pushing for a lasting ceasefire, full accountability, and a just and lasting peace for everyone."

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NEWSWATCH



MetroEast Headlines

UPDATES FROM ACROSS THE RIVER

Illinois Voters Contest Trump Candidacy

Offer the Latest Challenge to His Campaign Under the 14th Amendment

by Zach Schonfeld
Special Report

A new challenge to former President Trump's ballot eligibility under the 14th Amendment was brought in Illinois on Thursday.

Filed on behalf of five Illinois voters, the objection marks nonprofit Free Speech For People's fourth challenge seeking to remove Trump from the ballot in various states.

The Supreme Court is actively weighing whether to take up Trump's appeal of a decision kicking him off the primary ballot in Colorado, a case that would have nationwide impacts on the Illinois challenge and dozens of others.

Anti-Trump groups have sought to disqualify the former president by arguing his actions surrounding the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol attack violated the 14th Amendment's insurrection ban.

The amendment prohibits someone from holding "any office ... under the United States" if they "engaged in insurrection" after taking an oath to support the Constitution.

Ratified after the Civil War, it was designed to keep Confederates from returning to federal office but fell largely dormant in the decades since.

"By his conduct described herein, beginning before January 6, 2021, and continuing to the present time, Trump gave aid and comfort to enemies of the



Constitution by, among other things: encouraging and counseling the insurrectionists; deliberately failing to exercise his authority and responsibility as President to quell the insurrection; praising the insurrectionists, including calling them 'very special,' 'good persons,' and 'patriots'; and promising or suggesting that he would pardon many of the insurrectionists if reelected to the presidency," the petition states.

The petition, filed with the state's board of elections, requests

a hearing and a decision barring Trump's name from appearing on both the state's March 19 primary ballot and the general election ballot in November.

"The spurious so-called 14th Amendment cases are spearheaded and funded by left-wing billionaires including George Soros and other groups being coordinated by Crooked Joe Biden," Trump campaign spokesman Steven Cheung said in a statement.

"These shams are all part of a coordinated election interference

lawfare campaign designed to disenfranchise millions of American voters by depriving them of the right to vote for the candidate of their choice because Crooked Joe's allies see the writing on the wall, President Trump is winning and Biden is losing," Cheung continued. "Ultimately, we believe the law is on our side and President Trump will overwhelmingly be re-elected to the presidency and Make America Great Again."

Of the dozens of challenges filed nationwide, two have been successful in getting Trump's name knocked off the ballot.

Colorado's top court and the top elections official in Maine, a Democrat, ruled the 14th Amendment prohibited Trump's name from appearing on their state's primary ballots.

The Maine case is now proceeding in state court, but the Colorado case has been on the fastest track and is now in the hands of the Supreme Court, which is weighing whether to take up the case. Legal experts largely expect the court to do so.

Other cases filed by Free Speech For People have been rejected in Minnesota and Michigan. The group's challenge in Oregon remains ongoing.



Illinois State Representative Kevin Schmidt

Update for January 2024 • Contact Representative Schmidt at (618) 215-1050

Introducing State Representative Kevin Schmidt: A Champion for Local Businesses, Healthcare, and Public Welfare

Cahokia Heights, IL...State Representative Kevin Schmidt, a local small business owner, doctor, and lifelong conservative, is focused on protecting families and stimulating local job growth as State Representative of the 114th District. With a background in healthcare and a commitment to fiscal responsibility, Rep. Schmidt is eager to represent the people of his district in the upcoming 2024 Spring Legislative Session.

Rep. Schmidt is a dedicated chiropractor and the owner of Schmidt Chiropractic. Through his business, he has implemented cost-saving measures and streamlined operations, showcasing his ability to effectively manage resources. His experience in running a fiscally conservative business aligns with his commitment to cutting costs and lowering taxes to benefit the overtaxed citizens of Illinois.

Born and raised in Belleville, Rep. Schmidt is deeply connected to the struggles faced by the local community. His involvement in various local organizations, including past presidencies of the Millstadt Jaycees and Optimist Club, highlights his commitment to community service. As a current member of the NRA, a mason, and a Shriner, Rep. Schmidt actively contributes to the well-being of the community.

An issue of great urgency for Rep. Schmidt is the public health crisis facing Cahokia Heights. Rep. Schmidt calls for immediate action to fix the failing sewer infrastructure there as well as advocating for comprehensive medical testing, resource allocation, and a thorough



investigation into the health risks posed by sewage exposure.

Rep. Schmidt is set to champion several bills in the upcoming legislative session, addressing critical issues affecting Illinoisans. Some notable bills include:

H B 4337: Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act to enhance the Illinois Veteran Grant Program.

HB 4371: Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code to include blood type and RH factor on driver's licenses.

HJRCA 0017: Proposes term limits for State Senators and Representatives.

HB4106: Provides tax credits for qualified restoration or preser-

vation projects.

HB4114: Establishes a sales tax holiday for school supplies.

HB4128: Introduces the Veterans Day Paid Leave Act.

HB4134: Expands the Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act.

HB4163: Addresses child support for defendants found guilty of aggravated DUI resulting in death.

HB4167: Allows youth under 18 to take wild turkey during the youth season.

HB4215: Establishes regulations for the hunting of wild turkey.

HB4283: Creates the Gun Crime Charging and Sentencing Accountability and Transparency Act.

Rep. Schmidt is proud to serve the people of Illinois District 114.



A CLOSER LOOK

ROLE MODELS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

ESL Mentoring Program Shows *the Way*

A Positive Influence, it Guides Young Men and Teaches Important Life Skills

ARGUS Staff Report

East St. Louis Mentoring Program Aims to be a Positive Influence on Young Men to Show Them a Better Way

A mentoring program in East St. Louis is working to guide young men towards a brighter future by providing positive role models and teaching important life skills.

ARGUS Staff Report

On a recent Saturday morning, a group of male teenagers experienced a unique interaction with a real shark in the world of STEM, the acronym for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics – a broad term used to group together academic disciplines.

The teens were participating in a learning and enrichment session that's part of the Metro East St. Louis Community Initiative



(MESLCI), a mentoring program working to instill positive values in youth preparation for manhood.

One of the professional mentors is a science teacher, Mike Sankey, who introduced the youth to STEM at the meeting. Exposing youth to new areas of possibilities is what MESLCI is about.

"They dissected a baby shark," recalls the Rev. Dr. Wilfert Lee, Board Chairman of MESLCI. "They loved it."

The mission of the program is to inspire hope and strengthen communities through personal, professional and economic development. Lee describes the program as a "community outreach

center" to be a visible entity in not just Metro East St. Louis but also in Cairo and Mount Vernon, Il.

The program, housed in a spacious facility that formerly was a church at 8601 Washington Street in East St. Louis, Il., was founded ten years ago by the Delta Epsilon Foundation, Inc. The nonprofit charitable foundation provides enrichment education, scholarships and mentoring to youths in local communities who would not otherwise be able to thrive financially, economically or educationally. The foundation is an outreach of the Delta Epsilon chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. which operates independently from the fraternity but in collaboration with it.

In addition to the foundation financial support, MESLCI continues to seek out [funding sources](#)

see **POSITIVE INFLUENCE**, Page A5

FREE MAN, from A1

evidence in court, exposing the coercion of a key witness and highlighting Johnson's reliable alibi, placing him miles away from the crime scene. Shockingly, another incarcerated individual, James Howard, admitted to being the actual perpetrator.

In a momentous decision, Judge David C. Mason found clear and convincing evidence of Johnson's innocence, marking his release and vindication after 28 long years. However, Johnson's battle for justice didn't end there. His recent lawsuit alleges unconstitutional misconduct by the city, police, and the prosecutor's office, holding them accountable for his wrongful arrest and conviction.

The lawsuit emphasizes the irreversible harm inflicted upon



AWAITING THE VERDICT: Lamar Johnson meditates quietly just before the judge rendered the decision to set him free.

Johnson and the violation of his constitutional rights during the flawed investigation. Despite his exoneration, Missouri's compensation policy for wrongful convictions presents a challenge.

While the state typically compensates exonerees based on DNA evidence, Johnson's release was granted due to a judge's determination of his innocence, leaving him without financial restitution

from the state. Johnson's attorneys assert that the lawsuit seeks both answers and accountability. Emma Freudenberger, one of Johnson's attorneys, stresses the importance of holding the responsible parties accountable for the police misconduct that caused immense harm to Johnson and his family.

In a statement, Johnson expressed his gratitude for freedom and his determination to make up for lost time. He outlined his plans to raise awareness about wrongful convictions, help others, and move forward with his life. The lawsuit becomes not only a quest for compensation but also a demand for transparency, acknowledgment, and accountability in the face of a dark and painful chapter in Johnson's life that should never have been written.

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NEGATIVE RACIAL BIAS IN AMERICA

Bullying: Minority Youths *are at Risk*

How Race and Ethnicity Can Prescribe Effective Methods of Intervention



by Perry S. Bolliver
ARGUS Contributor

Despite increased research on bullying over many decades, understanding how negative bias affects African Americans and other immigrant youths can be somewhat obscure.

Bullying occurs when an individual is repeatedly exposed over time to negative actions on the part of one or more other persons. It often involves an intent to harm due to a power imbalance between the perpetrator(s) and the victim(s). While this definition of bullying behavior is widely accepted, it isn't necessarily seen as a universal truth.

Defining the Problem

Bullying can be direct or indirect, taking many forms: physical abuse (hitting, shoving, spitting, damaging or stealing property), verbal abuse (name-calling, threats, teasing, sexual comments), and relational misanthropy (social exclusion,



spreading rumors). Additionally, advances in technology has made cyberbullying an increasingly serious concern.

Race and ethnicity can present multifaceted challenges in bullying behavior; factors such as immigration status, class, gender and gender identity, and sexuality are all defining elements. However, findings may be limited by the relative dearth of research on the cumulative effects of multiple stigmatized identities.

Bias, Prejudice and Environment

A recent study shows that minority groups tend to experience more racist or bias-based bullying due to language barriers, physical appearance, and even immigrant status. These are reasons commonly cited by people targeted for intolerant behavior by others.

African American, Latino American, and Asian American students were more likely to be victimized at school if they were more in-

involved in academic extracurricular activities, while there was no effect for White students.

Research has focused more upon larger minority groups, and little is known about bullying in other at-risk racial and ethnic groups that are less visible — those that tend to be labeled as “other”, if they are identified at all (for example, social and environmental bias is more broadly studied in African American populations than Native American groups).

Conclusions

- While research into racial and ethnic bias as they impact bullying behavior has increased in recent decades, resolving underlying factors remains challenging and requires hard work. There are no shortcuts.

- Media coverage of deaths by murder, suicide or intentional misadventure related to bullying behaviors can perpetuate negative behaviors and attitudes amongst some populations.

see **BAD BEHAVIOR**, Page A10

POSITIVE INFLUENCE, from A4

for the program. The organization recently received a \$20,000 grant from the Saigh Foundation, that works to enhance the quality of life for children and youth in the St. Louis metropolitan area by supporting educational and health-related charitable institutions and organizations.

All of the African American male mentors are professional type individuals from such professions as school teachers, lawyers, business owners, law enforcement, entrepreneurs, real estate as well as retirees. Since its inception a decade ago, the program has served about 500 young men. The goal in 2024 is to reach 200 youth. It is important that the male youth interact with influential and successful black men.

“Our goal is to be a positive influence on young men to show them a better way and let them see some black professionals,” Lee says. “We think its very important for them to see accomplished men who look like us.”

Sessions are held the second Saturdays of the month, with the next meeting set for January 13. Below is a description of the program offerings:

Scholarship

The Webb-McDonald Scholarship is awarded every year to deserving youth in the Metro-East community. This scholarship provides a stipend to youth entering an institution of higher education upon graduation from an area accredited high school. Over \$10,000 in scholarships have been awarded to deserving youth within the Metro-East St. Louis community.

Judge Ora Polk Oratorical Contest

In collaboration with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Epsilon Lambda Chapter of East St. Louis, the Judge Ora Polk Oratorical competition is named in honor of the late judge and was created to continue the legacy of this respected educator, civic/community leader and charter member of Delta Epsilon Lambda. The contest encourages communication growth of

male students in the metropolitan area in grades 9-12.

Lights of Alpha Mentoring Program

Lights of Alpha Male Mentoring Program (LOA): Male youth in grades 8 through 12 are sought from the community through various means (school counselors, parents, churches and community residents). The young males meet monthly at the MESLICI facility and are provided group information (i.e., dining etiquette, public speaking finances, personal health, sexual development, manhood, credit card use, college preparation, etc. Also, a personal mentor is assigned to maintain contact with the youth and his parents.

Beautillion

The Beautillion celebrates the accomplishments of male youth preparing to make the transition from high school. The recipients of these scholarship dollars are highlighted at our annual banquet as part of the fundraising efforts through solicitation for ads and patronage. The winner

of the Beautillion is crowned “Beau of the Year” and receives a percentage of the fundraising proceeds as a scholarship/stipend.

Another program offerings to enhance personal enrichment is embracing the value of developing a strategy for life by utilizing a board game that includes, among other pieces, a king and a queen.

“They’re prepping for a chess tournament,” Lee says. “They’re learning to play chess which is helping them in their critical thinking as well as in life. We want them to finish the program with a concept on how to better their lives.”

For more information about the Metro East St. Louis Community Initiative (MESLICI), visit www.MESLICI.org.



Do You Have an Opinion to Share?

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Published by The St. Louis ARGUS Newspaper
2200 Noerth Highway 67, Unit #2615 • Florissant, Missouri 63032 • (731) 300-6441
Founded in 1912 by Joseph E. Mitchell, William Mitchell and Nannie Mitchell-Turner
Dedicated In Eternal Memory of Publisher Emeritus Dr. Eugene Mitchell

Publisher: Talibdin “TD” El-Amin
Managing Editor: Geoffrey F. Connors
Wire Service: Associated Press News Service
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TECHNOLOGY



NAVIGATING THE DIGITAL AGE

AI-An Opportunity We Can't Miss

Artificial Intelligence is a Growing Part of Our Daily Existence

by Maurice Foxworth, JD
ARGUS Technology Contributor

In the past year, it's been nearly impossible to ignore the growth of artificial intelligence (AI). AI has positioned itself as the next frontier in technology, poised to revolutionize our lives in ways we are only beginning to comprehend. Its transformative power is undeniably rapid, pushing the boundaries of our imagination and challenging our preconceived notions of what life can become. This is a time when billions of dollars are being funneled into AI-driven companies, presenting a dual-edged sword – the potential to level the playing field for marginalized communities while also harboring the risk of deepening the marginalization of people of color.

The history of technology's promises for Black communities has too often yielded disappointment and further marginalization. It's a narrative that dates back to the first technological revolution, rooted in agriculture, from which Black people were excluded due to the horrors of chattel slavery. Next, the Industrial Revolution followed, marked by the enduring legacy of Jim Crow Laws and its practices that systematically favored white individuals and oppressed Black communities in every facet of American life. The information revolution ushered in the Digital Age and brought unimaginable communication, biotechnology, and computing



advances. However, as we transition into what we might term the Intellectual Age, where the value of intellectual property supersedes that of tangible assets, we find ourselves mainly missing out on the significant opportunities presented by past technological revolutions.

But seizing these opportunities isn't merely about sitting at the AI table. It's about leveraging the transformative power of AI to reshape our narrative and influence the trajectory of technology. AI has the potential to perpetuate biases that have persisted for centuries. Yet, Black communities must not limit their role to being mere AI police or ethical watchdogs. We must integrate ourselves fully into the world of AI,

contributing our intellectual property at every level of its development.

In this journey, we can draw inspiration from the story of John Henry, the strong Black worker who famously defeated a steam-powered drill during the late 19th-century railroad-building era, even at the cost of his own life. Ultimately, the mechanized drill displaced hundreds of Black laborers. John Henry's story should remain a source of pride for African Americans, a story of Strength and resilience. Still, it is also a cautionary tale of what happens when we fail to adapt to the technology of the era. This is why harnessing AI to dramatically enhance human capabilities while

addressing potential threats is so important. This means demanding a prominent, lasting, and influential presence at the AI table, ensuring that our communities do not just participate but significantly influence the future of AI and technology.

Remember, the future is yours –Be Inspired!



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN DAILY LIFE

**AI's Meaning to Our Democracy

Surprising Answers to a Query Asked of an Artificial Intelligence

by Kim William Gordon, Ph.D.
ARGUS Technology Editor

(NOTE: ** Indicates Answers from the AI.)

Question:

Is Machine Intelligence (AI) a Threat to Our Democracy?

Answer:

The question of whether AI is a threat to democracy is complex and multifaceted, involving various perspectives and considerations. Here are some key points to consider:

1. **Potential for Misinformation and Propaganda**: AI can be used to generate convincing fake news, deepfakes, and propaganda, which can undermine the quality of public discourse and the democratic process. This could potentially influence elections, spread misinformation, and

polarize societies.

2. **Surveillance and Privacy Concerns**: The use of AI in surveillance technologies by governments or corporations can infringe on individual privacy and civil liberties. This surveillance capability, if abused, could lead to a control state that suppresses dissent and freedom of expression, key pillars of democratic societies.

3. **Algorithmic Bias and Discrimination**: AI systems can perpetuate and amplify existing biases if they are trained on biased data. This can lead to unfair treatment of certain groups in society, undermining the principle of equality that is central to democracy.

4. **Concentration of Power**: The development and control of AI technologies are often concentrated in the hands of a few large

tech companies or governments. This concentration of power and control over information flow can pose a threat to democratic principles if not properly regulated and overseen.

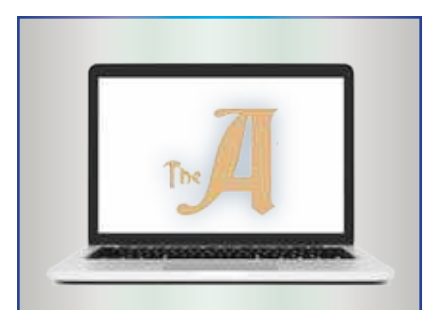
5. **Influence on Employment and Economy**: AI's impact on the job market and economy can lead to significant social changes. Job displacement without adequate social safety nets or retraining programs can lead to economic inequality and social unrest, potentially destabilizing democratic institutions.

6. **Regulation and Oversight**: The challenge for democracies is to develop effective regulations and oversight mechanisms for AI that protect citizens' rights and freedoms while also fostering innovation and growth.

7. **Public Awareness and Education**: Democracies

rely on an informed electorate. Ensuring public awareness and understanding of AI, its capabilities, and its limitations is crucial for democratic societies to make informed decisions about the use and regulation of this technology.

In conclusion, while AI presents challenges to democracy, it is not inherently a threat. The key lies in how AI is developed, used, and regulated. Democracies need to adapt and evolve policies and educational systems to address these challenges proactively and ensure that AI serves the public good.



POLITICS



Jared Young Running for Senate

Who He Is and How He Will Serve Everyday Missourians

FIRST PUBLISHED IN THE KANSAS CITY STAR • RELEASED BY PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR

by Jared Young
Guest Opinion

Jared Young is...

...An independent voice – not a career politician, but rather a capable Missouri citizen who felt compelled to stand up – someone with experience bringing people together when the stakes are high.

He believes politics doesn't have to be as destructive and divisive as it's become, and that understanding and compassion can help us find a middle way that is in the best interest of all. He is representing the moderate majority in Missouri who is being ignored by the two parties.

Jared will represent normal, everyday Missourians, rather than those loudly yelling at the extremes of the political spectrum.

As a nation, our ability to exchange and implement the best ideas is under attack. The marketplace of ideas is breaking down, and it means we're losing the ability to solve hard problems. We can be better. It's time for us to rise above the fear and anger that have been dividing our nation.

Help America be better — chip



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Join the movement for progress, not polarization.

Together, we can help Jared lead change in how our senators represent us.

Jared represents...

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..perspective shaped by business leadership, experience abroad, and thousands of hours volunteering in the community.

..hope for a better way forward for our country.

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Report: Focus of HBCU Tragedy Found

Lincoln University Administrator's Suicide Prompts Calls for President's Ouster

HBCU TRAGEDY, from A1

working under Moseley and his administrative leadership.

In her letter to Moseley, Candia-Bailey recalled an apparent meeting between the two: "I couldn't even finish the meeting because you didn't hear me. I left in tears. You intentionally harassed and bullied me and got satisfaction from sitting back to determine how you would ensure I failed as an employee and proud alumna."

Candia-Bailey also stated in the letter that she was never made aware of concerns about her performance until a November 2023 performance review and was never given an action plan to address the concerns afterward.

Candia-Bailey also had submitted complaints to HR and to the Board of Curators about Moseley, according to other emails and letters obtained by ABC News.

Following her death, Lincoln University's Board of Curators announced plans to "engage a third-party expert to fully review potential personnel issues and concerns recently raised regarding compliance with the University's established policies and procedures," read a statement sent by the university to ABC News.

Moseley, 47, volunteered to be placed on paid, administrative leave while that review is conducted, according to the Board of Curators.

Moseley has a doctorate in educational leadership and policy analysis, according to a university website profile. He was previously the director of athletics at the university and the head men's basketball coach before taking over the position as pres-

ident, according to Moseley's LinkedIn profile. Previously, he was associate head coach at North Carolina Central University, another HBCU, according to the profile.

Moseley has not yet returned ABC News' request for comment. The university has not yet responded to further requests for comment.

"As a Board, we are committed to make certain the mental health of Lincoln University employees is a priority and that every employee is always treated with dignity and respect," said Board of Curators President Victor Pasley.

He continued, "The Board has confidence in the leadership team we have at Lincoln, but as we all work together to serve students and the Lincoln University community, this review will fully examine important questions, concerns and gather facts."

Moseley is facing calls to resign from the university's students and alumni after the alleged complaints against him were revealed.

"The present administration has become a liability to the mission and health of the institution," said Lincoln University Alumni President Sherman Bonds in a Jan. 9 letter to the president and Board of Curators. In the letter, he demanded "a change in the Office of the Presidency of the University effective immediately."

He added, "The Board of Curators has the fiduciary responsibility to ensure there comes no harm to the institution's mission or brand. Today, I, along with many others, assert this appeal to you and the Board. We -- the community, family members, friends, and alumni -- seek a

path to healing."

LU students took to campus protesting Moseley's tenure last week, according to the Jefferson City News Tribune.

Friends and family of Candia-Bailey told ABC News she had recently signaled signs of stress and unhappiness with her workplace.

In a letter obtained by ABC News, Lincoln University said it conducted an investigation in December 2023 into concerns reported by Candia-Bailey that Moseley was making jokes about and disclosed her mental health to others and that it "did not find that Dr. Moseley engaged in such actions."

The letter adds, "the investigator determined that you have taken no responsibility for the poor work you have done since your arrival at the University, and have set yourself against Dr. Moseley, believing he is the problem and that it is his responsibility to provide you with actionable items to make you feel better in your position as Vice President of Student Affairs, Dean of Students."

Candia-Bailey is remembered fondly by her loved ones, who say she was a hard worker.

Kendra Perry, a Lincoln University alum and close friend of Candia-Bailey's for almost 30 years, told ABC News in an interview that she knew about Candia-Bailey before meeting her on campus in the 1990s.

"I had met some of her friends and they said 'when you meet Bonnie, you're going to love Bonnie. Oh my god, just wait until you meet her.' So I'm like, 'Wow, I'm intrigued' because they spoke so highly of her. And it could not have been any truer when I met her."

Perry described Candia-Bailey as a motivator, who was a mentor as well as a friend.

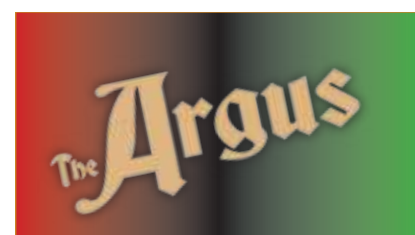
"I was in the same spot that she was in and bullied by my boss and I was being beat up on," said Perry. She said Candia-Bailey drove two hours to meet up with Perry during the day to talk about what Perry was experiencing: "When I went to see her, I started crying. Like, I cried like a baby because I was holding it in and I was so angry. But I was able to be humble around her. I could just be myself and cry and blubber and just express myself. It was a no judgment zone."

In a Jan. 12 statement, Candia-Bailey's family said she was known for her "vibrant personality, quick wit, and infectious smile."

"Born with an extroverted spirit, she never met a stranger and was admired for her kind and compassionate nature," said LaDonna Candia-Flanagan, her aunt. "Dr. Bonnie's confidence, unique style, and her ability to challenge the thoughts of others set her apart as a true leader."


Lincoln University in Missouri is not associated with Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, another HBCU.

ASK FOR HELP WHEN NEEDED: If you are struggling with thoughts of suicide or worried about a friend or loved one, call or text the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 for free, confidential emotional support 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



Celebrate

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Make some history of your own! Check out the Missouri History Museum's website for Black History programming throughout the month.

Take a winter stroll through the beautiful George Washington Carver Garden at the Missouri Botanical Garden, an ode to the acclaimed scientist and inventor. Head to the National Blues Museum, where you can view artifacts and enjoy interactive exhibits that bring the blues music experience to life.

To plan your historic experience, visit www.explorestlouis.com

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SOCIETY



ST. LOUIS STYLE AND ENTERTAINMENT

The ARGUS Presents Mike Jones

A Fresh Look at the Fresh Looks All Around Our Great Gateway City

by Mike Jones

Fashion / Entertainment Editor for The ARGUS

Mike Jones, a native of St. Louis and President of Stella Loisir Fashion House, set out to establish an event, a night out with elegance, style and laughter. Special memories of the good and bad that could now bring joy. An event that would replace the words “cancer victim” with “cancer survivor,” and bring about a different notion of a cancer experience. He envisioned a production that would deal with the full spectrum of survivorship issues related to living with, through, and beyond a cancer diagnosis. Stella Loisir gives the give that keeps on giving through joy, laughter and honor. December 2023 set the stage for the 7th Annual Walk For Cancer”. Models strut the runway of all ages, all physique, all culturally connected to honor the nights selected VIP Guest and their Support Team. Living through the last treatment to, ringing the bell, to tears of joyful expression’s – I Survived”, Thank You God, I’m here”, I made it!

Cancer is a disease in which some of the body’s cells grow uncontrollably and spread to other parts of the body. Millions of Americans who share a common experience – the survivorship experience – living with, through and beyond a cancer diagnosis. That experience has value and can be a transforming, positive force. When you have walk-the-walk either with Cancer or as a cancer survivor and those who care for them face many challenges.

“Everything that happens to us is not for us to keep. It’s for us to figure out a way to give back. We must figure out a way to help other people. How do I take this hurt, pain, and discomfort and channel it in a way to help others? Says Loretta Herring’ and like Loretta and every person



around the globe didn’t know where this journey would take them – but thanks to her own diagnosis, the world opened before her eyes. For Mary Wilson another St. Louis native “Hearing those dreaded words, “You have cancer,” gave her the opportunity to learn the full impact of advocacy, research, and support. Her mission then and today is to give back to members of her community by sharing her insights as a survivor, empowering others, and building a better future for all cancer patients!

“How do we deal with my sister being sick with a disease that

blindsided our family, she was so young” shares Mike Jones. He felt lost and overwhelmed by his sister Carmen Jones weight loss, hair loss, and the fact that she was constantly sick. They needed answers, but there were none; they needed support, but there weren’t many groups for Black patients. Micheal being a Fashion Show Producers and Models Coach at that time over 25 years, believed that no one should have to go through cancer alone. With that inspiration launched into “Stella Loisir Walk for Cancer Fashion Show and Awards to Cancer Survivors. For 7 years he has honored and pay homage to Carmen,

this segment of his production company is geared toward eliminating the fears, the grief, the darkness often associated with a cancer diagnosis. “For one night, paint the town red and let’s turn up, why not! expresses an attendee, David Christopher.”

On December 16th, Stella Loisir painted the night Pink and awarded Cancer Survivors who are some of St. Louis’ notable Hero’s & Shero’s... Eddie Hasan former President of Moka, Mary Wilson an author of 4 published books and Robin Robinson..... Here’s a peek of a beautiful evening.

The Criteria For Manhood Academy

Legacy Productions LLC, St. Louis (Metro) Chapter, is accepting applications from parents and legal guardians who desire that their son (ages 11 and 12) receive training that will qualify him for the responsibilities of manhood. Youth will receive basic skills training in managing anger, financial literacy, farming and agriculture, real-estate (acquiring and purchasing property), self-defense, relationships, health, how to change a flat tire, etc.

Our objective is to produce intelligent, confident, self-disciplined, and productive black men. We only have space available for 10 youth.

- Reserve your seat at “Open House” at the CIC-CET Building, 20 S. Sarah for Thursday, February 17, 2022, from 6-9pm.
- The second and final “Open House” is scheduled for Thursday, February 24, 2022 from 6-9pm in the same building.

For more information call 314-951-8173, between 12pm-6pm, Monday-Friday. <https://www.legacyproductionsllc.com>

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SPORTS

PREP SPORTS ANALYSIS

STL Prep Stars: Graduated *for* Success

Former STL Prep Sports Standouts Get Ready for Grad School Spotlight

by **Lyonel Cole**
ARGUS Sports Writer

They were last teammates and underclassmen receivers on the Cardinal Ritter 2020 football team, which lost to eventual Missouri Class 2 state champion Blair Oaks 55-46 in the state semifinals. Fast forward to this winter, three seasons later and both Luther Burden and Frederick Moore had more celebrate on a higher collegiate level.

Moore, a freshman reserve receiver for the Michigan Wolverines, got to play in his club's recent 34-13 rout of the Washington Huskies in the NCAA national championship, and joined teammates in displaying a T-shirt which read: National Champions Without A Doubt. Just the previous season as a senior at Cardinal Ritter, Moore had caught 67 passes for 1,504 yards and 24 touchdowns to help the Lions to an undefeated season as well and the Missouri Class 3 state championship.

Meanwhile just a couple of weeks earlier, Burden had caught the game-clinching touchdown to help spark the Missouri Tigers to a 14-3 victory over the Ohio State Buckeyes in the Cotton

Bowl, which secured Mizzou's first top-10 finish in the national polls in over a decade. Burden, a sophomore for the Tigers, merely capped off a season in which he snared 88 passes for 1,212 yards and nine touchdowns to earn first team All-Southeastern Conference honors and second team All-American. Suffice to say, Burden, who spent his final year of high school at East St. Louis after his first three at Cardinal Ritter, has emerged as one of the catalysts and leaders of the rising Tigers' program, despite his relative youth.

"I guess it is kind of just grooming, just being around the guys and feeling comfortable for them to let me lead them," Burden told reporters after the Cotton Bowl triumph.

For both Moore and Burden, their path to a national team and individual success on the national collegiate level started at Cardinal Ritter College Prep high school, where both were exceptional talents before leaving.

In fact, Moore will be expected to play a more prominent role in Michigan's passing attack next season, with its current star Roman Wilson (789 receiving

yards and 12 touchdowns) have declared for the NFL draft. At the same time, Burden will just add to his growing legacy at Mizzou next season. It's only fitting Moore will likely follow Burden for individual stardom, just like at Ritter.

In that aforementioned state semifinal loss to Blair Oaks, Burden missed the second half with an injury, in what turned out to be his final game as a Cardinal Ritter Lion. But Moore, an unsung sophomore then with limited stats, came through with two touchdown receptions in the fourth quarter, including a deep 50-yard bomb to help keep Ritter in the game. A star was born then. Lions coach Brennan Spain said during that offseason when Burden left, that players like Moore would be emerging. Now, Moore will be primed to emerge at Michigan next season.

While Burden and Moore are just two of many former area high school football players experiencing success in college football, two unsung and unheralded former area prep basketball stars have carried that success over as teammates for Webster University's men's basketball team: 6-foot-4 junior

forward-center Karl Moore of Jennings High and 6-2 sophomore guard Jemord Sykes II of Gateway. Moore is averaging 12.8 points, second-best on the Gorlocks squad and a team-high 9.1 rebounds.

"Karl (Moore) is at full strength now (after an injury) and playing well," said Gorlocks coach Chris Bunch. "He is one of the best defenders, shot blockers and rebounders in the country in Division 3 (small colleges). He is also staring to become more of a scorer this year as well."

Sykes, who averaged in double figures in points (12.4) and rebounds (11.3) when he last played in high school for the Jaguars, is described by Bunch as extremely versatile.

"Jemard is one of the best all-around players in our league," said Bunch. "He is like a guard and a power forward all rolled into one. He is an exceptional offensive rebounder. He is also one of the best defenders. He handles the ball much of the time and he can shoot as well. He is having a great year for us."

They are just four of a litany of former prep stars will successful journeys to share, needless to say.

BELOW: (left to right, school photos) Former Cardinal Ritter receiver Frederick Moore celebrates last week after his Michigan Wolverines won the NCAA national championship. Meanwhile, Mizzou's Luther Burden (3), a former Ritter and East St Louis high school star, helped lead the Tigers to a top-10 finish and earned first team, All-SEC and second team All-American honors. Over the hard wood floor, meanwhile, two former high school basketball stars at Jennings and Gateway Stem, Karl Moore (24) and Jemord Sykes II (11) have helped Webster the University Gorlocks stay competitive (7-7) on the Division 3 level.



BAD BEHAVIOR, from A5

- Issues surrounding equality and social justice have risen to the forefront of public discourse. Yet critical gaps in knowledge must be addressed if the African American community is going to reach a more complete understanding of how bullying impacts us and the communities around us.

- Finally, context matters: from geopolitics and mass migration, to hyperlocal regional stereotypes and social factors like minority density and attitudes around cultural diversity. Future research and suggested methods of bullying intervention should be informed by more determined efforts to improve race

relations.

Bottom Line

Changing the attitudes that lead to racial bias and bullying behavior is one to one, person to person. And it starts with the person in the mirror.

Edited by Jake Maxwell, ARGUS Senior Correspondent. Source: National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine / Center for Biotechnology Information.





The VIBE

Kendra Holmes Receives National Honor

Affinia CEO Singled Out for Her Advocacy for Improving Access to Healthcare

ARGUS Staff Report

ST. LOUIS, MO – The National Association of Community Health Centers has selected Dr. Kendra Holmes for its 2024 Elizabeth K. Cooke Advocacy MVP Award.

Dr. Holmes is the President and Chief Executive Officer for Affinia Healthcare, a federally qualified health center serving the St. Louis metropolitan area.

The NACHC Elizabeth K. Cooke Advocacy MVP Award is named in honor of the late Elizabeth K. (Betsey) Cooke whose constant effort and unflagging persistence as an advocate for America's health centers and patients set an example for all health center advocates to follow. Recipients are selected based on their leadership and tireless dedication to advocating on behalf of more than 31.5 million health center patients nationwide.

Dr. Holmes joined Affinia Healthcare as a staff pharmacist in 2003. She advanced in the organization serving in a variety of leadership roles and was selected as Affinia Healthcare President and CEO in 2023, the first African-American and woman for this position. She earned her doctorate



in pharmacy from the University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy in St. Louis (formerly St. Louis College of Pharmacy).

As COO, Dr. Holmes led the process leading Affinia Healthcare to earn national accreditation from the Joint Commission in 2022. Under her leadership, Affinia Healthcare has received several honors including the Generate Health Dr. Corinne Walentik

Provider/Practitioner Champion Award, St. Louis Business Journal Diversity Champion Award, Williams & Associates Unapologetic Award, and Missouri Primary Care Association Platinum Quality Award. Affinia Healthcare has also received honors as a National Committee for Quality Assistance (NCQA) Patient-Centered Medical Home, and HRSA Badges of Excellence for Quality, and Addressing Social Risk Factors.

About Affinia Healthcare

Affinia Healthcare is a dynamic and transformative health system, providing affordable primary and preventive health care located in St. Louis, Missouri. Affinia Healthcare is a community health center, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and is accredited through The Joint Commission and NCQA organizations. Through its 11 locations (which includes school-based health centers) in St. Louis City and County, Affinia Healthcare serves over 43,700 people per year, of whom more than 90 percent have incomes under 100 percent of the federal poverty level. Approximately 70 percent of patients served are Black or African American, 11 percent are Hispanic/Latinx, and over 4,000 are un-housed.

The Affinia Healthcare Foundation depends on a wide array of funding sources and individual donor contributions to care for the most vulnerable and disenfranchised in our community. To make a donation to Affinia Healthcare, visit www.affiniahealthcare.org/donate.

For more information about Affinia Healthcare, call 314-814-8700, or visit www.affiniahealthcare.org.

ST. LOUIS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



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Neighborhoods United for Change

Neighborhoods United for Change has concluded its sixth and seventh years as a program funded by the City of St. Louis Community Development Administration (CDA). The mission of the SLACO Community Development and Engagement Institute is to promote an equitable and just society by advancing effective practices in resident training and engagement across the entire city. Our commitment involves providing opportunities to enhance citizen participation in public affairs, ultimately improving the quality of life for residents in every St. Louis neighborhood.

#NU4Change effectively introduced a community-driven social circle framework to involve residents in meaningful conversations, catalyzing addressing citywide neighborhood issues.

To schedule a tour, contact our coordinator, Judith Arnold, at jarnold@slaco-mo.org or 314.305.1661.

THIS ACTIVITY IS FINANCED IN PART THROUGH AN ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION.

LAST LOOK

Research: Police Killings Spiked *in 2023*

Law Enforcement Officers were Responsible for a Record Number of Deaths Last Year

by Lauren Sforza
NNPA Senior Correspondent

The number of people killed by police officers in the United States reached a new high in 2023, according to new research.

The Mapping Police Violence project, which has been tracking police killings in the country since 2013, reported that officers killed 1,329 people last year, representing nearly a 19-percent increase over the 11-year span.

The number of deaths at the hands of police officers has been on the rise since 2020, the year thousands of protesters and civil rights activists joined in Black Lives Matter demonstrations after the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer.

Mapping Police Violence noted there were just 14 days that a police officer did not kill someone in 2023.

The project defines police killings as any “incident where a law enforcement officer (off-duty or on-duty) applies, on a civilian, lethal force resulting in the civilian being killed.”

Last year also represented the sharpest increase in deaths from the year prior, with a 6.3 percent increase from 2022. There were 1,250 police killings in 2022, 1,178 in 2021 and 1,251 in 2020.



The project, which is run by Campaign Zero, also reported that Black people were about 2.8 times more likely to be killed by officers than white people between 2013 and 2023.

The report said that nearly 90 percent of victims were killed by a gunshot, about 7 percent killed by a vehicle and nearly 2 percent by a taser.

Approximately 62 percent of killings followed a 911 call.

Among last year’s deaths was Tyre Nichols — a 29-year-old Black man who died after a traffic stop that resulted in a fatal beating from police officers in Memphis, Tenn. The five officers involved in the incident have been indicted on federal charges of second-degree murder, aggravated assault, aggravated kidnapping, official misconduct and official oppression.

USA Today first reported on last year’s data.

The Gun Violence Archive,

which tracks shootings throughout the U.S., reported that 2023 saw a decrease in shooting deaths overall. More than 800 suspects were injured in officer involved shootings last year, according to the organization.



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